



Arizona Department of Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

Sunday, September 7, 2008

Arizona Department of Public Safety Investigates Six Collisions resulting in Seven Fatalities in a 24 Hour Period.

Fatalities were in Northern Arizona and Phoenix Metro area

Arizona Department of Public Safety Officers are investigating Six collisions in a 24 hour period this weekend that resulted in seven fatalities.

The first collision occurred at early Saturday 9/6 morning at 1:32 a.m. in the northbound lanes of State Route 202 at Elliot Road. This collision involves a Honda 4 door sedan and a Chevy pickup. The Honda was traveling eastbound on SR 202 when it struck and sideswiped the Chevy and both vehicles lost control, rolling off the roadway. The two vehicles came to rest on the Elliot exit ramp. Deceased: Francisco Perez Cabrera 43, of Phoenix. Cabrera was the driver of the Chevy. The driver of the other vehicle and his passenger sustained serious injuries

The second collision occurred Saturday evening at 7:14 p.m. This involves a two vehicle hit and run that occurred on State Route 202 at milepost 44.9. Vehicle #1 struck the left corner of vehicle #2 causing it to rotate clockwise then overturn. The passenger of vehicle #2 was partially ejected and pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of vehicle #2 was transported to Scottsdale Osborn Hospital. The driver of vehicle #1 fled the scene but later returned to the scene and turned himself in. He as placed under arrest pending further investigation. Deceased is Else Moreno 19, of Maricopa.

The third collision occurred Saturday evening at 7:15 p.m. in the westbound lanes of US 180 at milepost 381.7 near St. Johns. This is a one vehicle collision. Brandon Willie 24, of Teec-nos-pos, Arizona was killed when the vehicle he was driving for unknown reasons went off right, struck a guardrail and overturned. He was declared dead at the scene. Two other passengers riding in his vehicle were admitted to Flagstaff Medical Center

The fourth collision occurred Saturday evening at 9:10 p.m. in the westbound lanes of State Route 68 near Bullhead City. This involves a one vehicle collision that was caused when the driver for some unknown reason lost control of the vehicle causing it to roll several times. Three of the five occupants were ejected. One occupant, Douglas Campbell 18, of Golden Valley sustained fatal injuries.

The fifth collision occurred Saturday evening at 9:27 p.m. in the eastbound lanes of State Route 202 (Red Mountain Freeway) near Milepost 13 (Center Street Overpass). A Pontiac GTO was eastbound on State Route 202 possibly in the left or center travel lanes near the Center Street

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Overpass when the driver for an unknown reason lost control of the vehicle. The loss of control caused the vehicle to travel to the right, across the travel lanes, off the roadway onto the dirt shoulder where it struck a drainage ditch and a traffic control sign, rolled over and came to rest on the dirt shoulder. Witnesses reported the Pontiac appeared to be traveling above the posted speed limit and may have been with three to four other vehicles. The deceased driver is Thomas Verdone 20, of Scottsdale. He was declared dead at the scene as a result of trauma sustained from the collision impact. The investigation is continuing and the Arizona Department of Public Safety is requesting any witnesses to the driving behavior, identification of the possible other vehicles in the immediate area traveling eastbound or any knowledge of the collision to call **DPS at (602) 223-2212**

The seventh collision occurred early Sunday morning at 3:44 a.m. in the eastbound lanes of Interstate 10 near Tonopah. A semi tractor trailer was traveling eastbound on I-10 when for an unknown reason veered off the roadway into the left dirt shoulder, then corrected back onto the roadway before rolling over onto its right side and coming to rest in the center media with a portion of its trailer exposed in the left lane. The trailer was struck by a Ford Explorer. A passenger riding in the explorer was ejected and declared deceased on scene. A Chevrolet Corvette also struck the semi-trailer. The driver of the Corvette was also declared deceased on scene. Deceased: Deborah Lou Oshaughnessy 50, Fontana, California (passenger in the SUV) Deceased: Matthew Aaron Bachrach 31, of Queen Creek (driver of the sports car)

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